

**Introduced by Senator Florez**

February 21, 2003

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Senate Resolution No. 10—Relative to the United States Navy Commander Otis Vincent Tolbert Memorial Highway.

1 WHEREAS, The Kings County Board of Supervisors has  
2 approved adoption of a resolution proposing that a section of State  
3 Highway Route 198 in Lemoore be named in honor of the late  
4 United States Navy Lieutenant Commander Otis Vincent Tolbert,  
5 a long-time Lemoore resident who was killed during the terrorist  
6 attacks on the Pentagon on September 11, 2001; and

7 WHEREAS, The section of State Highway 198 proposed to be  
8 named in honor of Otis Tolbert would stretch from 18th Avenue  
9 to 25th Avenue in Lemoore, and the portion of the highway that  
10 would bear his name directly correlates to his life, starting at  
11 Lemoore High School, his alma mater, and ending at the Lemoore  
12 Naval Air Station, a reference to his naval career; and

13 WHEREAS, A 1980 graduate of Lemoore High School where  
14 he was track and field star, Otis Tolbert was awarded a football  
15 scholarship at California State University, Fresno (CSUF), where  
16 he played defensive end for the Fresno State Bulldogs football  
17 team, and he graduated in 1985 with a degree in criminal justice;  
18 and

19 WHEREAS, After leaving CSUF, he joined the United States  
20 Navy and he advanced to the rank of Lieutenant Commander for  
21 the Defense Intelligence Agency; and

22 WHEREAS, Otis Tolbert was known for his signature smile, his  
23 strength, his leadership, and for being true to his word, and he was  
24 devoted to his family and friends and to his country; and



1 WHEREAS, Otis Tolbert was buried at Arlington National  
2 Cemetery in a military ceremony of honor and appropriate regalia  
3 for a respected and valued Naval officer; and

4 WHEREAS, Otis Tolbert is survived by his wife, Shari; his  
5 three children Amanda, Brittany, and Anthony Tolbert; his  
6 parents, Otis and Nancy Tolbert; and his brothers, Daniel and Chris  
7 Tolbert; and

8 WHEREAS, The naming of the proposed section of State  
9 Highway 198 in Lemoore would be a fitting tribute to an  
10 individual who brought immense pride and distinction to the  
11 community and who gave his life serving his countrymen; now,  
12 therefore, be it

13 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California*, That the late  
14 United States Navy Lieutenant Commander Otis Vincent Tolbert,  
15 whose stellar service to the United States of America will long be  
16 remembered, be memorialized and that the portion of State  
17 Highway Route 198 between 18th Avenue and 25th Avenue in  
18 Lemoore, California, be named the United States Navy  
19 Commander Otis Vincent Tolbert Memorial Highway in his  
20 honor; and be it further

21 *Resolved*, That the Department of Transportation is requested to  
22 determine the cost of appropriate plaques and markers, consistent  
23 with the signing requirements for the state highway system,  
24 showing this special designation, and upon receiving donations  
25 from nonstate sources sufficient to cover that cost, to erect those  
26 plaques and markers; and be it further

27 *Resolved*, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of  
28 this resolution to the Department of Transportation and to the  
29 author for appropriate distribution.